NYC Anarchist Black Cross

U.S. Political Prisoner and Prisoner of War Listing

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BLACK/NEW AFRIKAN LIBERATION

Mumia Abu-Jamal #AM8335
SCI Mahanoy
301 Morea Road
Frackville, Pennsylvania 17932

Birthday: April 24
Mumia is an award winning journalist and was one of the founders of the Black Panther Party chapter in Philadelphia, PA. He has struggled for justice and human rights for people of color since he was at least 14 years old ~ the age when he joined the Party. In December of 1982, Mumia, who moonlighted by driving a taxi, happened upon police who were beating his brother. During the melee, a police officer was shot and killed. Despite the fact that many people saw someone else shoot and then runaway from the scene, Mumia, in what could only be called a kangaroo court, was convicted and sentenced to death. During the summer of 1995, a death warrant was signed by Governor Tom Ridge, which sparked one of the most effective organizing efforts in defense of a political prisoner ever. Since that time, Mumia has had his death sentence overturned, but is still expected to serve the rest of his life in prison. *More information: freemumia.com*

Sundiata Acoli* #39794-066
FCI Cumberland
Post Office Box 1000
Cumberland, Maryland 21501
**Address envelope to Clark Squire.*

Birthday: January 14
A New York Black Panther, he endured two years of prison awaiting trial for the Panther 21 Conspiracy Case. He and his comrades were eventually acquitted on all the bogus charges.

The case was historic and a classic example of police and government attempting to neutralize organizations by incarcerating their leadership. As a result of this political attack and because of the immense pressure and surveillance from the FBI and local police Sundiata, like many other Panther leaders went “underground”. On May 2, 1973, Sundiata Acoli, Assata Shakur and Zayd Shakur were ambushed and attacked by state troopers on the New Jersey Turnpike. Assata was wounded and Zayd was killed. During the gun battle a state trooper was shot and killed in self defense. Sundiata was tried in an environment of mass hysteria and convicted, although there was no credible evidence

that he killed the trooper or had been involved in the shooting. He was sentenced to thirty years. *More information: sundiataacoli.org*

Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin #99974-555
USP Florence ADMAX
Post Office Box 8500
Florence, Colorado 81226

Birthday: October 4
Formerly known as H. Rap Brown, the Imam came to prominence in the 1960s as chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the Justice Minister of the Black Panther Party. He is perhaps most famous for his proclamation during that period that "violence is as American as cherry pie", as well as once stating that "If America don't come around, we're gonna burn it down." He is currently serving a life sentence for homicide.

Zolo Azania #4969
State Prison Minimum Unit
1 Park Row
Michigan City, Indiana 46360

Birthday: December 12
Zolo Azania is a former Black Panther convicted of a 1981 bank robbery that left a Gary, Indiana cop dead. He was arrested miles away from the incident as he was walking, unarmed, down the street. The prosecution intimidated witnesses, suppressed favorable evidence, presented false eyewitness and expert testimony, and denied him the right to speak or present motions in his own behalf.

Herman Bell #79-C-0262
Great Meadow Correctional Facility
11739 State Route 22
Post Office Box 51
Comstock, New York 12821-0051

Birthday: January 14
Herman Bell moved to Brooklyn as a boy. He was a talented football player and won a scholarship to UC-Oakland. While in Oakland, Herman joined the Black Panther Party and became active around human rights issues in the Black community. In 1971, due to relentless FBI attacks on the Party, Herman went underground.

While underground, Herman joined the Black Liberation Army, and in September of 1973

he was captured and extradited to New York on charges of having killed 2 New York City police officers—a case for which other Panthers were serving time. No witnesses were able to put Herman at the scene of the crime. The first trial ended in a hung jury, but Herman was convicted at his second trial and sentenced to 25 years to life.
In 1990, he earned his B.S. degree from the SUNY-New Paltz. Herman remains a prison activist, having coached sports teams inside the prison system, as well as mentoring younger prisoners. More information: *freehermanbell.org*

Joe-Joe Bowen* #AM4272
SCI Coal Township
1 Kelley Drive
Coal Township, Pennsylvania 17866-1020
**Address envelope to Joseph Bowen.*

Birthday: January 15
Joseph "Joe-Joe" Bowen is one of the many all-but-forgotten frontline soldiers in the liberation struggle. A native of Philadelphia, Joe-Joe was a young member of the "30th and Norris" street gang before his incarceration politicized him. Released in 1971, his outside activism was cut short a week following his release when Joe-Joe was confronted by an officer of the notoriously brutal Philadelphia police department. The police officer was killed in the confrontation, and Bowen fled. After his capture and incarceration, Bowen became a Black Liberation Army combatant, defiant to authorities at every turn. In 1973, Joe-Joe and Philadelphia Five prisoner Fred "Muhammad" Burton assassinated Holmesberg prison's warden and deputy warden as well as wounded the guard commander in retaliation for intense repression against Muslim prisoners in the facility.

In 1981, Bowen led a six-day standoff with authorities when he and six other captives took 39 hostages at Graterford Prison as a freedom attempt and protest of the prison conditions. Much of his time in prison has been spent in and out of control units, solitary confinement, and other means of isolating Joe-Joe from the general prison population. These include three trips to Marion Penitentiary, where he met Sundiata Acoli and other BLA members. He is legendary to many prisoners as a revolutionary. "I used to teach the brothers how to turn their rage into energy and understand their situations," Bowen told the Philadelphia Inquirer in 1981. "I don't threaten anybody. I don't talk to pigs. I don't drink anything I can't see through and I don't eat anything off a tray. When the time comes, I'll be ready."

Veronza Bowers, Jr. 35316-136
USP Atlanta
Post Office Box 150160
Atlanta, Georgia 30315

Birthday: February 4
Veronza was a member of the Black Panther Party and was convicted in the murder of a U.S. Park Ranger on the word of two government informants, both of whom received reduced sentences for other crimes by the Federal prosecutor's office. There were no eye-witnesses and no evidence independent of these informants to link him to the crime. At his trial, Veronza offered alibi testimony which was not credited by the jury. Nor was testimony of two relatives of the informants who insisted that they were lying. The informants had all charges against them in this case dropped and one was given $10,000 by the government according to the prosecutor's post-sentencing report. Veronza has consistently proclaimed his innocence of the crime he never committed, even at the expense of having his appeals for parole denied for which an admission of guilt and contrition is virtually required. He insists on maintaining his innocence. *More information: veronza.org*

Muhammad Burton* AF3896
SCI Somerset
1590 Walters Mill Road
Somerset, Pennsylvania 15510-0001
**Address envelope to Fred Burton.*

Birthday: December 15
Frederick Burton is an innocent man who has diligently attempted to prove his innocence to the courts for the past 37 years. Prior to his incarceration, Fred worked for a phone company, was a well respected member of his community and his wife was preparing to have twins, his third and fourth child. In 1970, Fred was accused and then convicted of participating in the planning of the murder of Philadelphia police officers. While the plan was allegedly to blow up a police station, what occurred was that a police officer was shot and killed allegedly by members of a radical group called "the Revolutionaries."

Chip Fitzgerald* #B-27527
Kern Valley State Prison
Post Office Box 5101
Delano, California 93216
**Address envelope to Romaine Fitzgerald.*

Birthday: April 11
Romaine "Chip" Fitzgerald, born and raised in Compton, California, joined the Southern California Chapter of the Black Panther Party in early 1969 as a teenager who had just been released from the California Youth Authority. In September of that year, as a dedicated member of the Party, Chip was arrested in connection with a police shoot-out and tried for assault on police and related charges, including the murder of a security guard. He was sentenced to death. *More information: freechip.org*

Robert Seth Hayes #74-A-2280
Sullivan Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 116
Fallsburg, New York 12733-0116

Birthday: October 15
After the assassination of Martin Luther King and the social upheaval which followed it, Robert Seth Hayes joined the Black Panther Party, working in the Party's free medical clinics and free breakfast programs. Like many other activists, Seth was forced underground by FBI and police repression of the Panther movement. Once underground, Seth joined the Black Liberation Army.

In 1973, following a shootout with police, Seth was arrested and convicted of the murder of a New York City police officer, and, while maintaining his innocence to this day, sentenced to 25 years to life in prison. Imprisoned for nearly forty years, Seth has long since served his sentence.

Seth first came up for parole in 1998, but prison officials have refused to release him, focusing on his involvement with the Black Panther Party and his knowledge as to the whereabouts of Assata Shakur and not his conduct while imprisoned. While in prison, Seth has worked as a librarian, pre release advisor, and AIDS counselor, mentoring younger prisoners and continuing to struggle for his people.
More information: kersplebedeb.com/sethhayes

Sekou Kambui* #113058
Bibb Correctional Facility
565 Bibb Lane
Brent, Alabama 35034
**Address envelope to William Turk.*

Birthday: September 6
Sekou Cinque T.M. Kambui is a New Afrikan political prisoner currently serving two consecutive life sentences for crimes he did not commit. Sekou has already spent twenty years of his life behind bars on trumped up charges of murdering two white men in Alabama in 1975.

Sekou is of Afrikan and Cherokee heritage, born on September 6, 1948 in Gadsden, Alabama. He was raised by his mother, grandparents and aunt in Detroit, Harlem, New York, and Birmingham, Alabama, respectively. Throughout the 1960's, Sekou participated in the Civil Rights movement, organizing youth for participating in demonstrations and marches across Alabama and providing security for meetings of the Southern Christian Leadership Council (SCLC), Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

Sekou is a paralegal professional and has been an active jailhouse lawyer and prisoner's rights activist for more than 20 years. Sekou became affiliated with the Black Panther Party in 1967 in Chicago and New York. While in Detroit, he became a member of the Republic of New Afrika, before returning to Birmingham. Back in Alabama, Sekou coordinated community organization activity with the Alabama Black Liberation Front, the Inmates for Action (IFA) Defense Committee and the Afro- American People's Party in the mid 1970's. Sekou was also a soldier in the Black Liberation Army (BLA) during these years before his capture. On January 2, 1975, Sekou was captured in north Birmingham for allegedly running a yield sign and/or speeding. During this stop, a 9mm pistol was found in the car lying between the front seats. Subsequent investigation by police on the scene discovered that the pistol was listed as stolen during a Tuscaloosa, Alabama murder. *More information: j.mp/SekouKambui*

Maliki Shakur Latine # 81-A-4469
Clinton Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 2000
Dannemora, New York 12929

Birthday: August 23

In his early years, Maliki Shakur Latine joined the Nation of Islam and began confronting society's oppressive forces. By 1969, Maliki joined the Black Panther Party. The discipline was not as rigid as in the Nation, but it contained the basic elements of discipline Maliki sees as essential to any effective revolutionary organization. Maliki began taking political education classes and transforming the theoretical ideals of the Panthers into daily practice.

Like many Panthers targeted by the U.S. government, Maliki found himself behind prison bars. Upon his release, Maliki found that government repression forced many Panthers underground. Maliki followed suit and spent eight years as a Black Liberation Army soldier.

On July 3rd, 1979, NYPD pulled over a car they suspected stolen. Approaching the car, guns drawn, the cops opened fire. All four occupants escaped, though one of them, and one cop, were injured. Prosecutors claimed fingerprint evidence against Maliki and a co-defendant, but no eye witnesses could place him at the scene. Following a clear pattern in cases regarding Panthers, Maliki was found guilty, sentenced to 25 years to life in prison. He has consistently been denied parole, primarily due to his past political affiliations.
More information: j.mp/MalikiLatine

Ruchell Magee* #A92051
CSP - Los Angeles County
Post Office Box 8457
Lancaster, CA 93539-8457
**Address card/letter to Cinque.*

Birthday: March 17
Commonly regarded as the longest held political prisoner in the U.S., Ruchell Magee has been imprisoned since 1963. He was politicized in prison and participated in the August 7, 1970 Marin County Courthouse Rebellion— the attempted liberation of political prisoner George Jackson and the Soledad Brothers by Jackson's younger brother Jonathan. Magee was seriously injured in the incident and subsequently pleaded guilty to aggravated kidnapping. He was sentenced in 1975 to life in prison and has been denied parole numerous times.

Abdul Majid #83-A-0483
Elmira Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 500
1879 Davis Street
Elmira, New York 14902-050

Birthday: June 25
In 1968, Abdul Majid joined the Black Panther Party, having been previously active with the Grass Roots Advisory Council. Abdul was involved in many of the community-based projects of the BPP including the free health clinic and free breakfast for children program.

After the Party was destroyed by the U.S. government, Abdul continued his political work as a paralegal with Bronx Legal Services. On April 16th, 1981 a van was pulled over by NYPD. Two occupants exited the van and fired upon the cops—one was killed, the other injured. Despite claims by the police that the van was pulled over for connections to burglaries, the folder of "suspects" circulated by the cops exclusively consisted of former Panthers, not burglary suspects. Abdul and his co-defendant, Bashir Hameed were arrested and tried three times. The first trial ended in a hung jury. The second trial was declared a mistrial by the judge immediately after the jury rendered a decision that acquitted Bashir on the murder charge. At a third trial, the state finally got its way—Abdul was convicted of murder and sentenced to 33 years to life.

Jalil Muntaqim* #77-A-4283
Attica Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 149
Attica, New York 14011-0149
**Address envelope to Anthony Bottom.*

Birthday: October 18
Jalil became affiliated with the Black Panther Party at age 18. Less than 2 months before his 20th birthday he was captured with Albert Nuh Washington in a midnight shootout with San Francisco police. He was subsequently charged with a host of revolutionary activities including the assassination of two police in New York City. It is for this that he is currently serving a 25 years to life sentence in New York State. His case is known as the New York 3 case as his co-defendants include Nuh and Herman Bell. He was also implicated in the San Francisco 8 case, and pled guilty to a lesser offense. *More information: freejalil.com*

Sekou Odinga #09-A-3775
Clinton Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 2001
Dannemora, New York 12929

Birthday: June 14
Sekou was forced into hiding in 1969 when he and twenty other Black Panther Party members were wrongly charged with criminal conspiracy in the NY Panther 21 case. Several months later, while still underground, he traveled to Algeria to establish an international chapter of the Black Panther Party. Later, Sekou became an activist in the New Afrikan Independence Movement and a member of the Black Liberation Army. On October 23, 1981, Sekou and Mtyari Shabaka Sundiata were ambushed by the NYC police and FBI agents. The police murdered Mtyari. Sekou was eventually captured, tortured, and eventually charged with the liberation of Assata Shakur and the expropriation of money from an armored car. Sekou was convicted of two federal charges under the Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) Act and was sentence to forty years imprisonment and a $50,000 fine. He was also convicted of six state counts of attempted murder steaming form the defense of himself and Mtyari during the police attack in 1981. For this he was sentenced to concurrent life sentences.
More information: sekouodinga.com

Ronald Reed #2195311
Minnesota Correctional Facility-Oak Park Heights
5329 Osgood Avenue North
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082-1117

Birthday: August 31
Ronald Reed, a former member of the Black United Front, was convicted of the 1970 shooting of a St. Paul police officer. Twenty-five years after the killing, Reed was arrested and convicted of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit first degree-murder. He is serving Life in prison.

Reed is a former 60s civil rights activist. In 1969, Reed was also among the students at St. Paul Central High School who demanded black history courses and organized actions against racist teachers. He was also instrumental in helping to integrate college campuses in Minnesota. During this period, Reed began to look toward revolutionary theory and began to engage in political street theater with other young black revolutionaries in the city of St. Paul. *More information: j.mp/RonaldReed*

Kamau Sadiki* #0001150688
Augusta State Medical Prison
3001 Gordon Highway
Grovetown, Georgia 30813
**Address envelope to Freddie Hilton.*

Birthday: February 19
Kamau Sadiki is a former member of the Black Panther Party and was convicted of a 30-year old murder case of a Fulton County Police Officer found shot to death in his car outside a service station. *More information: freekamau.org*

Dr. Mutulu Shakur #83205-012
USP Victorville
Post Office Box 3900
Adelanto, California 92301

Birthday: August 8
In 1987 Dr. Shakur was sentenced to 60 years imprisonment for his role in the Black Liberation Movement. In March 1982, Dr. Shakur and 10 others were indicted by a federal grand jury under a set of U.S. conspiracy laws called Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) laws. These conspiracy laws were ostensibly developed to aid the government in its prosecution of organized crime figures; however, they have been used with varying degrees of success against revolutionary organizations. Dr. Shakur was charged with conspiracy and participation in the Black Liberation Army, a group that carried out actual and attempted expropriations from several banks. Eight incidents were alleged to have occurred between December 1976 to October 1981. In addition, he was charged with participation in the 1979 prison escape of Assata Shakur, who is now in exile in Cuba.

After five years underground, Dr. Shakur was arrested on February 12, 1986.

While he was on the street, Dr. Shakur challenged the use of methadone as a tool of recovery for addicts. He believed in natural remedies instead and, based on those beliefs, founded the Black Acupuncture Advisory Association of North America. Many people credit Shakur with saving their lives. Dr. Shakur has worked to free political prisoners and to expose government abuses against political organizers. While in prison, he has struggled to create peace between rival gangs. *More information: mutulushakur.com*

Russell Maroon Shoatz #AF3855
SCI Graterford
Post Office Box 244
Graterford, Pennsylvania 19426-0244

Birthday: August 23
A dedicated community activist and founding member of the Philadelphia based organization Black Unity Council, which eventually merged with the Black Panther Party (1969). In 1970, along with 5 others, Maroon was accused of attacking a police station, which resulted in an officer being killed. This attack was said to have been carried out in response to the rampant police brutality in the Black community. For 18 months Maroon functioned underground as a soldier in the Black Liberation Army. In 1972 he was captured. Twice he escaped—once in 1977 and again 1980, but both times he was recaptured and today he is held in Pennsylvania where he is serving multiple life sentences. *More information: russellmaroonshoats.wordpress.com*

Gary Tyler #84156
Louisiana State Penitentiary
ASH-4
Angola, Louisiana 70712

Birthday: July 10
On 7 October 1974 students at Destrehan High School, St Charles Parish, Louisiana, were sent home earlier than usual due to racial disturbances during the day. As the buses carrying black students back to their homes were leaving the school they were attacked by a group of 100 to 200 white people throwing stones and bottles at the buses. Shots were allegedly fired from inside the bus and one person was killed. Gary Tyler, after complaining about police harassment of other Black students, was put inside a police car and eventually arrested. Police thoroughly searched the bus and found no weapon. It was not until days later that cops allegedly found a .45 caliber pistol in the seat where Tyler was sitting. This was enough evidence to convict Tyler. *More information: freegarytyler.com*

Angola Three

The Angola 3 are three black liberationists that while inside prison, contact with members of the Black Panthers led to the creation of a prison chapter of the Black Panther Party

in 1971. The men then organized prisoners to build a movement within the walls to desegregate the prison, to end systematic rape and violence, for better living conditions, and worked as jailhouse lawyers helping prisoners file legal papers. They organized multiple strikes and sit-ins for better conditions. Woodfox and Wallace were convicted of the 1972 stabbing murder of 23-year-old prison guard Brent Miller. The third member of the Angola 3, Robert King Wilkerson, has been released. On October 4th, 2013, due to complications from late stage liver cancer, Herman Wallace died. He died a free man after spending an unimaginable 41 years in solitary confinement. A federal judge ruled that he be released a mere three days before his death. *More information: angola3.org*

Shaka Cinque* #72148
David Wade Correctional Center - N1A
670 Bell Hill Road
Homer, Louisiana 71040
**Address envelope to Albert Woodfox.*

Birthday: February 19

MOVE Nine

The MOVE 9 are nine men and women who have been in prison since August 8, 1978, following a massive police attack on their home in the Powelton Village neighborhood of Philadelphia. The raid was a major military operation carried out by the Philadelphia police department under orders of then-mayor, Frank Rizzo. During this attack, heavy equipment was used to tear down the fence surrounding their home, fill the house with tear gas, and flood it. One of the cops on the scene was killed by a single bullet, most likely fired by another cop from above during the raid. All nine members of the MOVE organization were put on trial and convicted of murder. One of the nine, Merle Africa, died in prison in 1998 after being denied medical treatment. The eight remaining prisoners are regularly up for parole and supporters are campaigning to secure their release.
More information: move9parole.blogspot.com and onamove.com

Charles Sims Africa #AM4975
SCI Dallas
1000 Follies Road
Dallas, PA 18612-0286
Birthday: April 2

Debbie Sims Africa #OO6307
SCI Cambridge Springs
451 Fullerton Avenue
Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania 16403
Birthday: August 4

Delbert Orr Africa #AM4985
SCI Dallas
1000 Follies Road
Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612-0286
Birthday: April 2

Edward Goodman Africa #AM4974
SCI Mahanoy
301 Morea Road
Frackville, Pennsylvania 17932
Birthday: October 31

Janet Holloway Africa #OO6308
SCI Cambridge Springs
451 Fullerton Avenue
Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania 16403
Birthday: April 13

Janine Phillips Africa #OO6309
SCI Cambridge Springs
451 Fullerton Avenue
Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania 16403
Birthday: April 25

Michael Davis Africa #AM4973
SCI Graterford
Post Office Box 244
Graterford, Pennsylvania 19426-0244
Birthday: October 6

William Phillips Africa #AM4984
SCI Dallas
1000 Follies Road
Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612-0286
Birthday: May 11

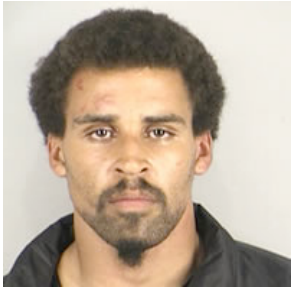
Nebraska Two

The Nebraska 2 were charged and convicted of the murder of Omaha Police Officer Larry Minard. Minard died when a suitcase containing dynamite exploded in a North Omaha home on August 17, 1970. Officer John Tess was also injured in the explosion. Poindexter and Rice were members of the Black Panther Party, and their case was, and continues to be, controversial. The Omaha Police withheld exculpatory evidence at trial. The two men had been targeted by the FBI's COINTELPRO (Counter Intelligence Program), which operated against and infiltrated anti-war and Civil Rights groups, including the Omaha Black Panthers. The US section of Amnesty International recognizes Rice and Poindexter as political prisoners. The state's parole board has recommended the men for release, but political leaders have not acted on these recommendations. *More information: n2pp.info*

Ed Poindexter #27767
Nebraska State Penitentiary
Post Office Box 2500
Lincoln, Nebraska 68542
Birthday: November 1

Mondo Eyen We Langa* # 27768
Nebraska State Penitentiary
Post Office Box 2500
Lincoln, Nebraska 68542-2500
**Address envelope to David Rice.*
Birthday: May 21

ANARCHIST MOVEMENT



Casey Brezik #1154765
Jefferson City Correctional Center
8200 No More Victims Road
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Birthday: December 30
In 2010, anarchist Casey Brezik tried to assassinate the governor of Missouri. In June of 2013, he was convicted and sentenced to a dozen years on each of three counts – assault and two armed criminal action charges – and seven years on a second count of assault. All sentences will run concurrently.

Bill Dunne #10916-086
FCI Herlong
Post Office Box 800
Herlong, California 96113

Birthday: August 3
Bill Dunne is an anti-authoritarian sentenced to 90 years for the attempted liberation of comrades from Seattle's King County Jail in 1979 and for attempting to break himself out of Leavenworth Penitentiary in 1983. Dunne was charged with possession of an automatic weapon, auto theft, and with aiding & abetting the escape. Charges further alleged the operation was financed by bank expropriations and facilitated by illegal acquisition of weapons and explosives.

Bill and his codefendant, Larry Giddings, were accused by police of being "members of a small, heavily armed group of revolutionaries," associated with the Wellspring Communion. Dunne has made the rounds of the federal prison system with stints at the infamous Control Unit in Marion, Illinois; Atwater; and Big Sandy where he has assisted prisoners with political & academic education. Bill also organizes solidarity runs in conjunction with the Anarchist Black Cross Federation's "Running Down the Walls" 5K runs and has edited and written for *4 Struggle* magazine. Larry Giddings was paroled from federal prison in 2004.

Marie Mason #04672-061
FMC Carswell
Post Office Box 27137
Fort Worth, Texas 76127

Birthday: January 26
Marie Mason is a revolutionary anarchist, avid community gardener, musician, mother of two, writer, Earth First! Organizer, IWW member, and former volunteer for a free herbal healthcare collective. She was an extended care assistant at a small Cincinnati school when she was arrested on March 10, 2008 by federal agents. She was convicted of involvement with a December, 1999 arson at a Michigan State University office in which GMO research was being conducted and a January, 2000 arson of logging equipment in Mesick, Michigan. Both arsons were claimed by the Earth Liberation Front. *More information: supportmariemason.org*

Eric McDavid #16209-097
FCI Terminal Island
Post Office Box 3007
San Pedro, California 90731

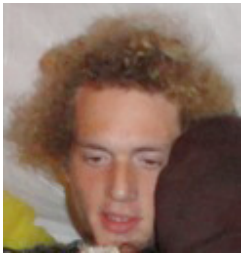
Birthday: October 7
Eric McDavid was arrested (along with Zachary Jenson and Lauren Weiner) in January 2006, as part of the government's ongoing "Green Scare" campaign and was charged with "conspiracy to damage and destroy property by fire and an explosive." His arrest was the direct result of a government informant - known only as "Anna" - who spent over a year working with the FBI to fabricate a crime and entrap Eric in it. Eric was imprisoned for a "thought-crime"- no actions were ever carried out. McDavid was denied bail twice despite no history of violence or criminal record and spent almost two years at county jail awaiting trial. Both of his codefendants cooperated and testified against Eric at trial. He is currently appealing his conviction and sentence while imprisoned in California. His anticipated release date is 2/10/2023. *More information: supporteric.org*

Cleveland Four

Days before national May Day protests, the FBI announced the arrest of activists on terrorism charges for plotting to destroy a bridge. FBI informants and undercover agents had a heavy hand in creating the alleged plot. *More information: cleveland4solidarity.org*

Brandon Baxter #57972-060
FDC Oakdale
Post Office Box 5010
Oakdale, Louisiana 71463
Birthday: April 27

Skelly* #57976-060
USP Tucson
Post Office Box 24550
Tucson, Arizona 85734
**Address envelope to Joshua Stafford.*
Birthday: October 3



Connor Stevens #57978-060
FCI McKean
Post Office Box 8000
Bradford, Pennsylvania 16701
Birthday: December 17

Douglas L. Wright #57973-060
USP Hazelton
Post Office Box 2000
Bruceton Mills, West Virginia 26525
Birthday: May 31

NATO Five

The NATO 3 were arrested on May 16, 2012 in the lead up to the anti-NATO protests in Chicago, Illinois. They were originally charged with 11 felony counts under the Illinois state version of the USA Patriot Act including material aid for terrorism, conspiracy to commit terrorism & possession of an incendiary device. What surfaced after their arrest were that two undercover cops, “Mo” and “Gloves” had been trying to entrap these three activists and others as part of Chicago’s surveillance & targeting of the local activist community. The NATO 3 went to trial on January 21, 2014, were acquitted of all terrorism counts on February 7. They were found guilty of possession of an incendiary device with the intent to commit arson, possession of an incendiary device with the knowledge that another intended to commit arson and mob action. On April 25, 2014, Brian Church was sentenced to five years, Brent Betterly to six years, and Jared Chase to eight years. The remaining two defendants served their time in state prison and were released in 2013. *More information: freethenato3.wordpress.com*

Brent Betterly M44724
Stateville Correctional Center
Post Office Box 112
Joliet, Illinois 60434
Birthday: April 19

Jared Chase M44710
Stateville Correctional Center
Post Office Box 112
Joliet, Illinois 60434
Birthday: June 12

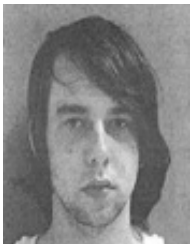
Brian Church M44717
Stateville Correctional Center
Post Office Box 112
Joliet, Illinois 60434
Birthday: September 23

Tinley Park 5

In May 2012 five antifascists were arrested in Tinley Park, Illinois for allegedly assaulting a meeting of white-supremacist organizers. They eventually took non-cooperating plea deals and are serving 3-6 year sentences. Alex Stuck was released in November 2013. In February 2014, John Tucker was released, having completed his sentence.
More information: tinleyparkfive.wordpress.com

Cody Sutherlin M34021
Robinson Correctional Center
13423 East 1150th Avenue
Robinson, Illinois 62454
Birthday: December 2

Dylan Sutherlin M34022
Centralia Correctional Center
Post Office Box 7711
Centralia, Illinois 62801
Birthday: March 3



Jason Sutherlin M34023
East Moline Correctional Center
100 Hillcrest Road
East Moline, Illinois 61244
Birthday: March 17

Toronto G20 U.S. Five

In March 2013, five U.S. citizens were arrested and faced extradition on charges from the 2010 G20 meeting in Toronto (Canada). Some have since received and completed prison sentences. On February 3, 2014, Richard Morano was sentenced to seven months in jail. Ten days later, Joel Bitar and Kevin Chianella, both New Yorkers, were sentenced to 20 and 24 months, respectively.

More information: supportjoel.com + notorontog20extradition.wordpress.com

Joel Bitar
Central North Correctional Centre
1501 Fuller Avenue
Penetanguishene, Ontario
L9M 2H4
Canada
Birthday: September 4

NO PHOTOS AVAILABLE

Kevin Chianella
Joyceville Institution
Highway 15
Post Office Box 880
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 4X9
Canada
Birthday: April 22

Richard Morano
Toronto West Detention Center
111 Disco Road Box 4950
Rexdale, Ontario
M9W 5L6
Canada
Birthday: September 26

INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE

Oso Blanco* #07909-051
USP Lewisburg
Post Office Box 1000
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania 17837
**Address envelope to Byron Chubbuck.*

Birthday: February 26
Indigenous rights activist serving 80 years for bank robbery, aggravated assault on the FBI, escape and firearms charges. A confidential informant reported that Oso was robbing banks in order to acquire funds to support the Zapatista rebellion in Chiapas, Mexico throughout 1998-99. *More information: osoblanco.org*

Leonard Peltier #89637-132
USP Coleman I
Post Office Box 1033
Coleman, Florida 33521

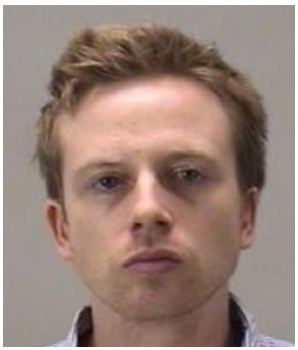
Birthday: September 12
Leonard Peltier is a Native American political prisoner and American Indian Movement (AIM) activist, serving two consecutive life sentences for a crime he was framed for— the 1975 killing of two FBI agents on the Oglala Sioux reservation. After the acquittal of his codefendants and being extradited form Canada under false pretenses, Peltier was convicted by an all white jury in a hostile town. Peltier has appealed his sentence many times and has sued the FBI for withholding thousands of pages of important legal documents from FOIA requests. He is an accomplished painter and writer, having published his memoir, *Prison Writings: My Life Is My Sun Dance*, in 1999. Peltier has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize multiple times. His defense campaign continues to advocate for executive clemency and his transfer close to home. *More information: leonardpeltier.info*

Luis V. Rodriguez #C33000
SATF-CSP, Corcoran
Post Office Box 5242
Corcoran, California 93212

Apache/Chicano activist framed for the murder of two cops.
More information: luisvrodriguez.com

HACKS/INFORMATION LEAKS

Barrett Brown #45047-177
FCI Seagoville
Post Office Box 9000
Seagoville, Texas 75159-9000



Birthday: August 14
In the first week of October 2012, Barrett was indicted on three counts related to alleged activities or postings on popular websites such as Twitter and YouTube. On December 4, 2012 Barrett was indicted by a federal grand jury on twelve additional

counts related to data from the Stratfor information leak, carried out by hackers from Anonymous and LulzSec. Despite his lack of direct involvement in the operation and stated opposition to it, he faces these charges for allegedly pasting a hyperlink online. On January 23rd, 2013 he was indicted a third time on two more counts, relating to the March 2012 FBI raid(s) on his apartment and his mother's house. *More information: freebarrettbrown.org*

Jeremy Hammond #18729-424
FCI Manchester
Post Office Box 4000
Manchester, Kentucky 40962

Birthday: January 8
Jeremy Hammond is an anarchist computer hacker from Chicago. In November 2013, he was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison for leaking the personal information of 860,000 customers of private intelligence firm Strategic Forecasting (Stratfor) through the whistle-blowing website Wikileaks. This information revealed that Stratfor spies on activists, among others, at the behest of corporations and the U.S. government.
More information: freejeremy.net

Chelsea E. Manning 89289
1300 North Warehouse Road
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-2304

Birthday: December 17
On April 4, 2010, whistle-blowing website WikiLeaks published a classified video of a United States Apache helicopter firing on civilians in New Baghdad in 2007. In late July 2010, the U.S. Military alleged that Manning was the chief suspect in the "Afghan Diaries" leak of U.S. Military combat and incident reports from the occupation of Afghanistan. The Afghan Diaries is the largest collection of leaked intelligence records in U.S. history, and details what Wikileaks and others have described as "countless war crimes" by U.S. and NATO forces. On August 21, 2013, Pvt. Manning was sentenced to 35 years in prison.
More information: chelseamanning.org

GREEN SCARE/EARTH LIBERATION/ANIMAL LIBERATION

Walter Bond #37096-013
USP Marion - CMU
Post Office Box 1000
Marion, Illinois 62959

Birthday: April 16
Walter Bond is an Animal Liberation Front (ALF) member imprisoned for the arson of the Sheepskin Factory in Denver, Colorado, the Tandy Leather Factory & the Tiburon Restaurant in Sandy, Utah (which sold Foie Gras). He pleaded guilty and received a total of 12 years and 4 months. His anticipated release date is 3/21/2021. *More information: supportwalter.org*

Kevin Olliff* M42382
Vandalia Correctional Center
Post Office Box 500
Vandalia, Illinois 62471
**Address envelope to Kevin Johnson.*

Birthday: March 27
In August 2013, Kevin and his codefendant's car was searched against their will in rural Illinois. The police found bolt cutters, wire cutters, muriatic acid, ski masks, and camouflage clothing and claimed these items were "burglary tools." Prosecutors attempted to link the two activists to a fur farm release the night before. In November, 2013, Kevin's co-defendant reached a non-cooperating plea agreement and was released on time served. Kevin was facing 5-7 years in prison, pleaded guilty and received a sentence of 30 months. With time served and Illinois' "half-time credit," Kevin is expected out after serving 10 months. *More information: supportkevinandtyler.com*

Rebecca Rubin #98290-011
FCI Dublin
5701 8th Street – Camp Parks
Dublin, California 94568

Birthday: April 18
Rebecca Rubin is serving a 5 year sentence for her role in a series of Earth Liberation Front (ELF) actions including the arson of the Vail Ski Resort Expansion and US Forest Industries. She also participated in the liberation of horses and the arson of Bureau

of Land Management (BLM) Wild Horse Facilities in Litchfield, California and Burns, Oregon.

Justin Solondz #98291-011
FCI Loretto
Post Office Box 1000
Loretto, Pennsylvania 15940

Birthday: October 3
Justin Solondz pleaded guilty to conspiracy and arson for his involvement in the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) arson of the University of Washington's Center for Urban Horticulture in 2001 and the Romania Chevrolet dealership in Eugene, Oregon. Justin was imprisoned in China for three years prior to extradition. His anticipated release date is 9/23/2017.

Brian Vaillancourt M42889
Danville Correctional Center
3820 East Main Street
Danville, Illinois 61834

Birthday: September 5
Brian Vaillancourt was arrested in February 2013 in Chicago for allegedly trying to burn down a McDonalds. In February 2013, he pleaded guilty and received a sentence of nine years.
More information: j.mp/vaillancourt

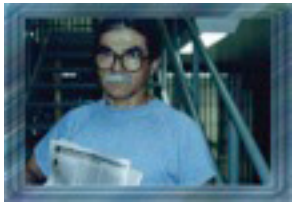
PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE

Norberto González Claudio #09864-000
FCI Coleman Low
Post Office Box 1031
Coleman, Florida 33521

Birthday: May 27
On May 10th, 2011, the FBI arrested Avelino's 65-year-old brother, Norberto Claudio González on charges dating back to 1983, also related to the Wells Fargo armored truck expropriation. In poor health, Norberto is continually moved and difficult to track on the Bureau of Prisons website. He was

recently sentenced to five years in federal prison.
More information: prolibertadweb.org/norberto-gonzalez-claudio

Oscar López Rivera #87651-024
FCI Terre Haute
Post Office Box 33
Terre Haute, Indiana 47808



Birthday: January 6
Oscar López-Rivera was born in San Sebastian, Puerto Rico on January 6, 1943. At the age of 12, he moved to Chicago with his family. He was a well-respected community activist and a prominent independence leader for many years prior to his arrest. Oscar was one of the founders of the Rafael Cancel Miranda High School, now known as the Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School and the Juan Antonio Corretjer Puerto Rican Cultural Center. He was a community organizer for the Northwest Community Organization (NCO), ASSPA, ASPIRA and the 1st Congregational Church of Chicago. He helped to found FREE, (a half-way house for convicted drug addicts) and ALAS (an educational program for Latino prisoners at Stateville Prison in Illinois).

He was active in various community struggles, mainly in the area of health care, employment and police brutality. He also participated in the development of the Committee to Free the Five Puerto Rican Nationalists. In 1975, he was forced underground, along with other comrades. He was captured on May 29, 1981, after 5 years of being persecuted by the FBI as one of the most feared fugitives from US "justice."
More information: boricuahumanrights.org

Kojo Bomani Sababu* #39384-066
USP McCreary
Post Office Box 3000
Pine Knot, Kentucky 42635
**Address envelope to Grailing Brown*

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

One of four members of the Puerto Rican independence group FALN convicted of conspiracy in a failed 1986 attempt to free the Oscar Lopez Rivera from prison.

CUBAN FIVE

The Cuban Five are five men convicted in U.S. federal court in Miami, Florida in 2001

on charges of espionage against the United States. The Five assert they were in Miami to monitor the actions of right-wing, anti-Cuban groups that were committing terrorist acts in Cuba. The Cuban Five infiltrated Miami-based terrorist groups, like Comandos F4 and Brothers to the Rescue, to inform Cuba of imminent attacks. Two of the five men have been released in recent years while three remain, including Gerardo Hernandez, who is serving a life sentence. *More information: freethefive.org*

Antonio Guerrero #58741-004
FCI Marianna
Post Office Box 7007
Marianna, Florida 32447-7007
Birthday: October 18

Gerardo Hernandez #58739-004
USP Victorville
Post Office Box 3900
Adelanto, California 92301
Birthday: July 4

Ramón Labañino* #58734-004
FCI Ashland
P.O. Box 6001
Ashland, Kentucky 41105
**Address envelope to Luís Medina III.*
Birthday: June 9

OTHER NATIONAL LIBERATION

David Gilbert #83-A-6158
Auburn Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 618
Auburn, New York 13021

Birthday: October 6
Gilbert was a founding member of Columbia University Students for a Democratic Society and member of The Weather Underground Organization. After eleven years underground, he was arrested in 1981, along with members of the Black Liberation Army and other radicals, after they killed two police officers and a security guard in the course of an

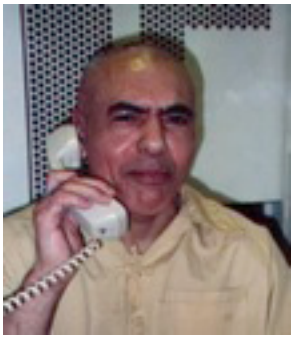
armored car robbery. Gilbert was tried and convicted for his part in their deaths and is now serving a 75 years-to-life sentence for his role in the robbery.
More information: j.mp/DavidGilbert_PP

Alvaro Luna Hernandez #255735
Hughes Unit
Route 2, Box 4400
Gatesville, Texas 76597

Birthday: May 12
A community organizer from Texas. Police informants were used to monitor Alvaro's organizing activites in the barrio. They were told Alvaro was "typing legal papers," "had many books" and was working on police brutality cases in Alpine.

The police knew of Alvaro's history of community-based organizing and his legal skills. Alvaro was recognized nationally and internationally as the national coordiantor of the Ricardo Aldape Guerra Defense Committee, which led the struggle to free Mexican national Aldape Guerra from Texas' death row after being framed by Houston police for allegedly killing a cop. Alvaro's human rights work was recognized in Italy, France, Spain, Switzerland, Mexico and other countries. He was sentenced in Odessa, Texas on June 2-9, 1997 to 50 years in prison for defending himself by disarming a police officer drawing a weapon on him. The trial evidence clearly showed Alvaro was the victim of "witchhunts" and a police-orchestrated conspiracy to frame or eliminate him.
More information: freealvaro.net

Hugo Pinell #A88401
California State Prison - Sacramento
Post Office Box 290066
Represa, California 95671



Birthday: March 10
While Pinell was imprisoned in San Quentin State Prison he made contact with revolutionary prisoners such as George Jackson, one of the Soledad Brothers and W.L. Nolen. On August 21, 1971, there was a prisoner uprising in Pinell's housing unit at San Quentin, led by George Jackson. On August 21, 1971, Jackson used a pistol to take over his tier in the Adjustment Center. At the end of the roughly 30 minute rebellion, guards had killed George Jackson, and two other prisoners and three guards were dead. Of the remaining prisoners in the unit, six of them, including Pinell, were put on trial for murder

and conspiracy. They were known as The San Quentin Six. Three of them were acquitted of all charges, and three were found guilty of various charges. Pinell was convicted of assault on a guard. Although Pinell was convicted of assault, and another of the San Quentin Six had a murder conviction, only Pinell remains.
More information: hugopinell.org

Tsutomu Shirosaki #20924-016
FCI Yazoo City
Post Office Box 5000
Yazoo City, Missouri 39194

Birthday: December 5
Tsutomu Shirosaki is a Japanese national imprisoned as a political prisoner in the United States. He has been accused of being a member of Japanese Red Army and participating in several attacks, including a mortar attack against a U.S. embassy. He is currently serving 30-years in a U.S Federal prison. during his college years, where Tsutomu began participating in the student movement, embracing a more left-wing philosophy. By the 1970s, Shirosaki participated in various underground activities, including a string of bank and post office robberies. These actions were fundraising activities for Japanese radical groups. But in 1971, Shirosaki was arrested in Tokyo and sentenced to ten years in prison for an attack on a Bank of Yokohama branch office. While acknowledging his radical philosophy and actions, Shirosaki maintains the assertion that he was never a member of the Japanese Red Army.

United Freedom Front

Jaan Laaman #10372-016
USP Tuscon
Post Office Box 24550
Tuscon, Arizona 85734

Birthday: March 21
Jaan was raised in Roxbury, Massachusetts and Buffalo, New York. His family immigrated to the United States from Estonia when he was a child. He is currently serving a 53 year prison sentence for his role in the bombings of United States government buildings while a member of the United Freedom Front, an American leftist group which robbed banks, bombed buildings,

and attacked law enforcement officers in the 1980s. In the 1960s Laaman worked with Students for a Democratic Society, a community organization that advocated against the Vietnam War and racism. He facilitated youth development in the Black Panther Party and the Puerto Rican Young Lords street gang. In 1972 he was arrested and charged with bombing a Richard Nixon reelection headquarters building and a police station in New Hampshire and was sentenced to 20 years. However, he was released in 1978. In 1979 he and Kazi Toure helped to organize the Amandla Festival of Unity to support an end to apartheid in Southern Africa, which featured musician Bob Marley. He was eventually caught with several other members of the United Freedom Front, referred to as the Ohio 7, including leader Tom Manning in 1984. While originally charged with seditious conspiracy, Laaman was found guilty of five bombings, one attempted bombing, and criminal conspiracy, and sentenced to 53 years in prison.
More information: freejaan.blogspot.com

Thomas Manning #10373-016
FMC Butner
Post Office Box 1600
Butner, North Carolina 27509

Birthday: June 28
Born to a Boston postal clerk, Thomas “Tom” William Manning is known for his involvement in the killing of a police officer during a routine traffic stop, and for his involvement with the United Freedom Front (UFF) who bombed a series of US military and commercial institutes in the 1970s and early 1980s. As a youth, he shined shoes and raised pigeons, before finding work as a stock boy. He joined the US Military in 1963, and the following year was stationed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba before being transferred off to spend the following year in the Vietnam War. Some time shortly after 1965, he was sentenced by a Massachusetts state court to five years in prison for armed robbery and assault, serving the last ten months in Massachusetts Correctional Institution - Cedar Junction. He claims it was during these years that he became heavily politicized, through his interactions with other prisoners. After his release in 1971, he married Carol and together they produced three children, Jeremy, Tamara, and Jonathan. Together with his arrest for the bombings, Manning was also convicted for his role in killing New Jersey police officer Philip Lamonaco during a traffic stop on December 21 1981. The killings launched the largest manhunt in NJ police history and ended with the arrests of Ray Levasseur, Patricia Gross, Richard Williams, Jaan Laamnan, and Barbara Curzi on November 4th, 1984, and Manning and his wife Carol on April 24, 1985. All of them were associated with

the United Freedom Front. Manning pled self defense at his trial, while defense counsel showed that Lamonaco had emptied his .357 revolver at Manning and his associates. He was sentenced on February 19, 1987 to 58 years in federal prison.
More information: oocities.org/tom-manning

GI/WAR RESISTERS

Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. KN 9758
SCI Dallas
1000 Follies Road
Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612

Norman was sentenced to 1-7 years in May 2012 for his third trespass at a military recruiting office in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Transform Now Plowshares

Greg Boertje-Obed, Sister Megan Rice, and Michael R. Walli succeeded in a disarmament action at the Oak Ridge Y-12 Nuclear facility before dawn on July 28, 2012. Calling themselves Transform Now Plowshares, they hammered on the cornerstone of the newly built Highly-Enriched Uranium Manufacturing Facility (HEUMF), splashed human blood and left four spray painted tags on the recent construction which read: Woe to the empire of blood; The fruit of justice is peace; Work for peace not for war; and Plowshares please Isaiah. In February 2014, Boertje-Obed and Walli were sentenced to just over 5 years each in federal prison; Rice was sentenced to about 3 years.
More information: transformnowplowshares.wordpress.com

Megan Rice #88101-020
MDC Brooklyn
Post Office Box 329002
Brooklyn, New York 11232

Michael R Walli #92108-020
FCI McKean
Post Office Box 8000
Bradford, Pennsylvania 16701

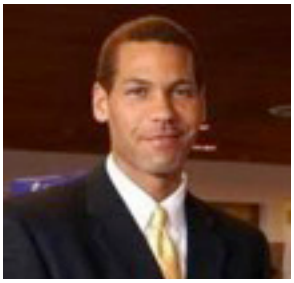
Gregory Boertje-Obed #08052-016
USP Leavenworth
Post Office Box 1000
Leavenworth, Kansas 66048

ANTI-POLICE

Andrew Mickel V77400
San Quentin State Prison
San Quentin, California 94974

On November 19, 2002, Andy Mickel shot and killed a cop named David Mobilio of the Red Bluff, California Police Department. There were no witnesses to the killing, and the crime would have gone unsolved had there not been Internet postings about the crime six days later. The postings read, “Hello Everyone, my name’s Andy. I killed a Police Officer in Red Bluff, California in a motion to bring attention to, and halt, the police-state tactics that have come to be used throughout our country.” In April 2005, Mickel was convicted of one count of first-degree murder. He was subsequently sentenced to death, and is being held on Death Row at San Quentin State Prison.

Christopher John Monfort #209040021
500 Fifth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104



Monfort is accused of waging a one-man war against the Seattle police in the fall of 2009, including the firebombing of police cars and the murder of a cop. Monfort is facing the death penalty in Washington state for his alleged actions. Since the start of court proceedings, Monfort has been very outspoken about the role of police and has consistently called on other people in the United States to confront police terror in their communities and use armed tactics to do so if necessary.

Reverend Joy Powell #07-G-0632
Bedford Hills Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 1000
Bedford Hills, New York 10507-2499

Birthday: March 5
Rev. Joy Powell was warned by the Rochester Police department that she was a target because of her speaking out against corruption. An all white jury tried her; the state provided no evidence and no eyewitnesses. Rev. Joy was not allowed to discuss her activism or say that she was a pastor. Furthermore, Judge Francis Affronti promised he was going to give her a harsh sentence because he did not like her. She was convicted and given 16 years and seven years concurrent. *More information: freejoypowell.org*

OCCUPY

Cecily McMillan
Book & Case Number 3101400431
Rose M. Singer Center
19-19 Hazen Street
East Elmhurst, New York 11370

Birthday: September 20
Cecily McMillan, a 25-year-old organizer, and has been politically active for over a decade — most notably in the Democratic Socialists for America, the anti-Scott Walker mobilization, and Occupy Wall Street. On March 17, 2012, Cecily was sexually assaulted while attempting to leave Zuccotti Park in compliance with police evacuation orders. She was forcefully grabbed by the breast and ripped backwards. Startled, her arm involuntarily flew back into the temple of her attacker, who flung her to the ground, where others repeatedly kicked and beat her into a string of seizures. To this point she had no way of knowing her attacker was a NYPD cop. After a lengthy trial, Cecily was convicted of 2nd degree assault, a felony carrying a 2-7 year sentencing. Cecily remains jailed, awaiting a May 19, 2014 sentencing date. *More information: justiceforcecily.com*

VIRGIN ISLAND FIVE

The “Virgin Island Five” are group of activists accused of murdering eight people in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The murders took place during a turbulent period of rebellion on the Islands. During the 1970’s, as with much of the world, a movement to resist colonial rule began to grow in the U.S. occupied Virgin Islands. From 1971 to 1973, there was a small scale Mau Mau rebellion taking place on the islands. This activity was down-played by the media, for fear it would damage the tourist industry, which the island’s survival depends on.

Abdul Azeez* #930257
Golden Grove Prison
Post Office Box 9955
Kings Hill, Saint Croix
Virgin Islands 00850
**Address envelope to Warren Ballentine.*
Birthday: January 9

Hanif Shabazz Bey* #295933
Golden Grove Prison
Post Office Box 9955
Kings Hill, Saint Croix
Virgin Islands 00850
**Address envelope to Beaumont Gereau.*
Birthday: August 16

Malik Smith*
Golden Grove Prison
Post Office Box 9955
Kings Hill, Saint Croix
Virgin Islands 00850
**Address envelope to Meral Smith.*
Birthday: October 8

GET INVOLVED

If you're in the NYC area, come to one of our events! We host political prisoner letter-writing dinners every other Tuesday (upcoming events are generally posted on the blog or you can email us to join our announcement list). We also host or co-host several other special events throughout the year, including the annual Running Down the Walls. Contact us if you'd like to be added to our announcement list for upcoming events and important news, or follow us on twitter.

Whether or not you live in the area, we encourage you to become an ABCF Warchest contributor. One can do so via mail or paypal (make your payment to timabcf[at]aol[dot]com) at a level of $5, $10, or $20 per month or on an ad hoc basis. Contact us for more information about this program and how to contribute.

For those outside of NYC, we also are available to answer questions and generally support people in starting a prisoner support organization or ABC chapter in your area.

WRITE A LETTER

Writing a letter to a political prisoner or prisoner of war is a concrete way to support those imprisoned for their political struggles.

A letter is a simple way to brighten someone's day in prison by creating human interaction and communication—something prisons attempt to destroy. Beyond that, writing keeps prisoners connected to the communities and movements of which they are a part, allowing them to provide insights and stay up to date.

Writing to prisoners is not charity, as we on the outside have as much to gain from these relationships as the prisoners. Knowing the importance of letter writing is crucial. Prisons are very lonely, isolating, and disconnected places. Any sort of bridge from the outside world is greatly appreciated.

With that in mind, avoid feeling intimidated, especially about writing to someone you do not know. And if possible try and be a consistent pen pal.

What to Write

For many, the first line of the first letter is difficult to write—there is uncertainty and intimidation that come with it. Never fret, it's just a letter.

For the first letter, it's best to offer an introduction, how you heard about the prisoner, a little about yourself. Tell stories, write about anything you are passionate about--movement work and community work are great topics until you have a sense of the prisoner's interests outside of political organizing.

And what we hear from prisoners time and time again is to include detail. Prison is so total that the details of life on the outside become distant memories. Smells, textures, sounds of the street all get grayed out behind bars. That's not to say that you should pen a stream-of-consciousness novel.

For things you should and should not remember when writing to folks, read "Guidelines."

Guidelines

You cannot enclose glitter or write with glittery gel pens or puff paint pens. Some prisons do not allow cards or letters that include permanent marker, crayon, or colored pencils and it is best to check with the prisoner beforehand. That said, it is usually best to write in standard pencil or non-gel pen in blue or black ink.

You cannot include articles or anything else torn out of a newspaper or magazine. However, you can print that same article from the internet or photocopy it and write your letter on the other side.

You cannot include polaroid pictures (though these days, that's not much of an issue), but you can include regular photographs. Some prisoners are limited to the number of photos they can have at any given time, so again, check with the prisoner before sending a stack of photos.

If mailing more than a letter, clearly write the contents of the envelope/package. Label it "CONTENTS" and include a full list.

A couple of technical details—make sure you include your return address inside the letter as well as on the envelope. It's common for prisoners to receive letters without the envelope. Make sure to paginate—number each page, such as 1 of 3, 2 of 3, et cetera. This insures that if pages of your letter don't make it to the prisoner, they will know it.

Be careful about making promises and only commit to what you are certain you can do. This should go without saying, but it's not a good idea to make commitments to someone you don't have a relationship with. If you can't maintain a correspondence, let them know up front. Conversely, if you want to maintain an ongoing correspondence, let them know that as well.

If you are writing to someone who is pre-trial, don't ask questions about their case. Discussing what a prisoner is alleged to have done can easily come back to haunt them during their trial or negotiations leading up to it.

Don't valorize the person you are writing. Keep in mind that these are folks coming from the same movements and communities that you are. They aren't looking for adoration, but rather to maintain correspondence.

Finally, do not write anything you wouldn't want Fox News, a cop, or a judge to see. Assume that intelligence and law enforcement agencies are reading your letter. On a related note, this advice goes for any snail mail, e-mail, texting, messaging, or talking that takes place in known activist spaces or homes. This is not legal advice, just basic movement survival common sense (to review, read "Staying Safe").

STAYING SAFE

You never have to, and it is never a good idea to talk to police, FBI, ICE, or any other law enforcement agent or investigator. Other than providing your name and address to a police officer who is investigating a crime, you never have to talk. You will not outsmart them by talking or sound less suspicious by talking or make things easier for yourself by talking. Anything you say will be used against you and others. If they catch you in a lie or inconsistency they can charge you with a separate crime.

Say: I have nothing to say to you OR I need a lawyer present to continue this conversation. If they come to your home, workplace, or school, ask them for a card and tell them your attorney will be in contact with them.

The FBI may threaten you with a grand-jury subpoena for not talking. It doesn't matter because they were probably going to subpoena you anyway and you weren't going to talk anyway. If you receive a grand jury subpoena you should contact a lawyer immediately and let others in your community know. People can be held for up to six months for refusing to talk to grand juries. Even so, for our own survival, it is imperative that we take that risk and do not participate in grand juries as they are used to indict political prisoners and prisoners of war.

In the federal legal system, the grand jury is used to decide whether someone should be charged ("indicted") for a serious crime. The grand jury hears evidence presented by the prosecutor: the U.S. Attorney. The grand jury uses subpoenas to gather this evidence. It can subpoena documents, physical evidence, and witnesses to testify. The "special"

federal grand jury, created in 1970, can be used to investigate “possible” organized criminal activity rather than a specific crime.

Currently there is more than one active grand jury in new york city. There are also more than likely informants and agent provocateurs infiltrating the anarchist community here.

It is imperative that we continue our work as anarchists including the support of political prisoners and prisoners of war towards the abolition of the state, of capitalism, and of all oppression. It is also imperative that we do so in a way that is smart, strategic, and sustainable.

NYC Anarchist Black Cross

NYC Anarchist Black Cross is a collective focused on supporting US-held political prisoners and prisoners of war and opposing state repression against revolutionary social justice movements. We are a Support Group of the continental Anarchist Black Cross Federation.

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